

Richmond Times-Dispatch

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 1921

Home of The
Times-Dispatch
Absolutely Fireproof.

Enforcement Machinery Wobbling

It is not a rosy picture of conditions
surrounding prohibition enforcement this
nation is called to gaze upon this day as it
enters upon the new year. Yet the facts
must be looked squarely in the face. De-
batable as are the general benefits of na-
tional prohibition, they have not been se-
cured without tremendous cost. It was not
to be expected that an efficient, smoothly
working enforcement machine could be set
up in a few weeks, or even months, but a
year and a half has passed since the Fed-
eral government took over from the States
the task of law enforcement, and its achieve-
ment to date does not lend encouragement
to the future. While the enforcement ma-
chinery perhaps is not actually breaking
down, it is creaking and groaning in its
joints, and its inefficient functioning is not
maintaining that respect for law which is
the very foundation stone of the American
republic.

On the contrary, a growing disrespect for
the law is observable on every hand. Fig-
ures presented by Attorney-General Palmer
to the House Committee on Appropriations,
before which he sought additional funds,
cannot be interpreted otherwise. He is au-
thority for the statement that during the
first nine months of national prohibition
there were 17,566 arrests for violation of
the law, 10,099 of them in the last three
months of that period. He expects that the
ratio will increase, but even under unex-
pectedly favorable circumstances he fore-
sees 40,000 such cases to be handled by
district attorneys this year, with certainly
not less than 60,000 cases for the Depart-
ment of Justice in 1921. With this ratio,
and the Attorney-General is basing his
prophecy on the records, we give promise
of becoming within a few years a nation of
lawbreakers.

Already the abortive attempts of the govern-
ment to enforce the dry laws have re-
sulted in clogging the Federal courts with
what should be Police Court cases, and Mr.
Palmer foresees the necessity of an addi-
tional assistant district attorney in every
district, while some sort of emergency step
must be taken to unburden the courts of
offensive duties which render them inef-
fective to the purposes for which they were
created. Mr. Palmer has been a leader
among the prohibitionists for many years,
so in painting his murky picture of things
as they are and as they promise to be, he
cannot be accused of bias toward those who
opposed the amendment and predicted the
very things which he now says are coming
to pass.

Causes of the apparent breakdown of the
enforcement machinery are not far to
seek. The American people yield to none
in their respect for law, so long as the law
is of their own making. They do not con-
sider the eighteenth amendment and their
companion piece, the Volstead act, of their
own creation. The amendment was forced
upon them without their sanction; they
were not given opportunity to approve it
or reject it. It was railroaded through over
their heads and even the enforcement mea-
sures have been made the instrument of pro-
hibition rigors for which authorization can-
not be found in the text. The result is that
thousands of citizens, naturally law-abiding
and respecting, are inclined to smile at in-
fringements of the law in the making of which
they had no hand, and do not hesitate to
assist in its breaking by illegal purchase.
Under such conditions illicit distilling, il-
licit retailing and illicit consumption have
been encouraged to the point where the
Federal machinery is unable to do more
than scratch the surface where it should be
cutting deep into the dangerous soil of pop-
ular violation.

It is but a demonstration of the ancient
adage that an unpopular law cannot be en-
forced. Nor should those who wink at vi-
olations be utterly condemned so long as
even the courts and the enforcement of-
ficers fail to agree in the law's interpre-
tation. In this district we have an instance
of court and prohibition director working
at odds. The latter, contrary to the law
as interpreted by the court, has destroyed

vast quantities of liquor and sold confis-
cated vehicles. In New York enforcement
officers are advertising the illegal sale of
\$1,000,000 worth of confiscated liquor, and
similar conditions prevail in practically
every district. So, with enforcement of-
ficers themselves charged by the court with
violations and the Attorney-General alleg-
ing corruption even in the forces of his
department, it is not surprising that the
law is becoming a byword in the mouths of
the people.

No solution of the alarming problem is
in sight. For the Federal government to
enforce prohibition to the letter would
bankrupt the treasury, even were such en-
forcement possible. To proceed with the
present ineffective machinery is only to en-
courage lawlessness and swamp the courts.
A solution does exist in a modification of
the stringent interpretation of the Volstead
law or a repeal of its most objectionable
features, but a servile Congress has been
too fearful of vengeance at the hands of
the organization which forced the amend-
ment into the Constitution to take such
curative action. Eventually, perhaps, the
return of national sanity will force Con-
gress to take such action for the country's
preservation, and when it does respect for
law and order will be restored and the na-
tion quickly will be freed from the can-
cerous growth which now assumes danger-
ous proportions.

The Richmond Advertising Club has hit
upon an idea little short of an inspiration
in its proposed creation of a "library of
business books for the free use of business
men, students and employees." That the
idea will be pushed forward to materializa-
tion admits of no doubt since the Adver-
tising Club is its sponsor, and Richmond
knows what this aggressive organization of
business men can do once it makes up its
mind. Books on business are playing an
increasingly important role in America's
highly specialized business life, and one who
would keep abreast the times dare not ne-
glect their reading. That every business
man may have this opportunity is the plan
of the club. Quarters already have been
secured and it is proposed to sell 5000 char-
ter memberships at what really is no more
than the price of one business book. Those
memberships should go almost overnight
to Richmond's progressive men and women,
and thus will the foundation stone of a
great business library for Richmond be laid.

A Profitable Conference

THE TIMES-DISPATCH was so confident
that the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway,
through its general passenger agent, John
D. Potts, would give a kindly and sym-
pathetic ear to the committee which waited
upon him yesterday and requested certain
changes in train schedules which it is be-
lieved would work to the benefit and con-
venience of Richmond. That confidence
was not misplaced.

As a result of the conference Mr. Potts
has agreed to recommend that the changes
requested in the service between Richmond
and Old Point be made. These changes,
if made, will give Richmond an early morning
connection with Cape Charles by boat from
Old Point, and with the New York, Phila-
delphia and Norfolk Railroad, which tra-
verses the Eastern Shore to points north.
He also intimated that he would recom-
mend moving the train which now leaves
Richmond for Cincinnati and points west
at 9:30 P. M. to 11 P. M., which change is
expected to furnish a more adequate and
convenient service for Richmond traffic to
the Valley of Virginia.

Pending final decision on these changes,
no action will be taken for the present on
changes suggested on the James River di-
vision. In this connection it should be
stated that we were in error yesterday when
we referred to the train leaving for the
West at 9:30 P. M., as the one whereby
Lynchburg had been unduly favored. The
train involved and which was intended to
be referred to is the one leaving Richmond
at 10 A. M. over the James River division.
Under the present arrangement this is left
as a subject for future conferences with
the Chesapeake and Ohio officials, which no
doubt will be borne in mind by the local
Chamber of Commerce.

The Times-Dispatch is gratified by the
outcome of the conference and it feels that,
with the United Commercial Travelers,
Travelers' Protective Association and their
associated organizations working actively
for improved schedules and with the rail-
road officials in sympathy with anything
that will improve local service, it is only a
matter of a short time until the desired ad-
justments will be effected.

Shadow and Substance

THE Appropriations Committee of the
House of Representatives has made a
brave show at reducing appropriations for
the coming fiscal year. In two measures
alone—the sundry civil and the post-office
bills—it has proposed appropriations \$432,-
696,373 below the estimates submitted by
the administration. These cuts, amounting
to \$333,271,292, in the first instance, and
\$12,600,000 in the second, are in line with
the policy of reducing the outlays for the
governmental establishment by a total of
\$1,400,000,000.

All this would be more reassuring to the
taxpayer if he did not know from experience
that the recommendations made by House
committees are not the last word upon the
subject. Even if the House accepts these
recommendations without change, it is as
certain as sunshine that the Senate will in-
crease them heavily and that eventually
the House will accept the increases. This
always happens and perhaps always will
happen, as long as both legislative bodies
have equal voice in making Federal appropri-
ations.

But that is not all. Along toward the
end of each session of Congress, the same
committees which cut initial estimates, make
public statements regarding their
economy policies and give the country the
impression that the treasury is being safe-
guarded against administration raids—
these same committees come forward with
deficiency appropriation bills, bringing the
total appropriations up to approximately
what the executive departments have asked.

In other words, the appropriations which
the House originally authorized do not
stand. The Senate first adds to them, then
the House itself adds more, with the net
result that the grand total of appropri-
ations is enormously in excess of the total
which the House committees bring forward
at the beginning of a congressional session.

SEEN ON THE SIDE

BY HENRY EDWARD WARNER

Kittie
Kittie is a pretty girl.
Kittie is a witty girl.
Sweeter than the roses, and a thornless
rose is Kittie!
When she looks and smiles at me
There's no place I'd rather be
Than the place where Kittie is, in coun-
try or in city!

Kittie knows I think she's cute—
Knows I'm a pretty fellow.
Knows I cannot sleep of nights for see-
ing her adorning!
Aye, she knows I'm daffy, though
She prefers to have it so.
When I kiss her dimpling chin, her eyes
With mischief gleaming!

All these marching famous dames
With their courts and sounding names,
All these heroines of fame seem colorless
beside her!
She has never fully known,
But from simple childhood grown,
And no tongue that ever spoke has sullied
or defiled her

Sweetest flower of Youth that grows,
Flushing like a dew-kissed rose,
How could any heart of man be stilled,
or how resist her?

Yet I thought I'm partial . . . well,
Yes, I am . . . I'm partial to tell.
I have always been a nut about my little
sister!

Charcoal Eph's Daily Thought.
"If a man got to learn 't swim," said Char-
coal Eph in a reflective mood, "his ain't no
use standin' on bank lookin' for a boat. Eat
a banana fritter, Mistah Jackson."

Right Again.
The patient leaped out of the dentist's chair
with a yell.
"I thought you said you could pull this
tooth without pain," he shouted at the den-
tist.
"I did," said the dentist. "I didn't feel the
slightest sensation."

Thespian Repartee.
Overheard a couple of actors talking in
the wings about a third who was pulling a
tack-up-stake of the troupe.
"Regular cigarette head, he is," said one.
"Smokes 'em all the time. What'll he be in
the next world?"
"A smoked ham," said Number Two, and
grabbed his cue.

Preferred Fiction.
1. "To tell you the truth, old man, I—"
2. "You are the only girl I ever—"
3. "Why—er—Mrs. Beans, my remittance
was—"

The Trend.
"And so, my son," said the Elder, affection-
ately, "it behooves you to obey the law."
"But, Governor, I don't want to be a law-
yer!" protested the youth.
"No," rejoined his father, "but some day you
may want to take up banditry, and you'll want
to know enough about the law to do it right,
son."

The Circle.
When I was born I had no hair,
No teeth, no anything;
A hairless, toothless little bear
Born one unlucky Spring.

As time went on my hair grew in
And teeth came on apace;
But gradually the teeth got thin,
And holes worked in my face.

And in these latter days I see
No hair which must be parted;
And teeth so artificial, geel!
I'm almost where I started!

Up With the Times
BY H. O. H.
Some one arises to inquire: "Who will pay
the premiums on the government's Shipping
Board policy?" Ask the taxpayers. They
know, they know.

Harding decried Old Dobbin for the automo-
bile in the inaugural parade. Determined
that no one shall get a "horse" on him right
at the outset of his administration.

Senator Penrose still favors a bonus for the
soldiers. Some one should tell him that the
election is over and the Republicans won.

Michigan mob pelted dry raiders with snow-
balls. But that didn't bring back its high-
balls.

Some surrendered without a struggle and
some were taken by storm, but at that a few
bachelors remain who are safe for another four
years.

That Marion conference of Harding and
Harding presages no softening of conditions
for the farmer.

Just because Senator Penrose is using a
reiter chair is no sign that he has abandoned
the steam roller.

Of course those college fraternity men held
their convention in Cuba for purely educational
purposes, but it is strange what fertile fields
of research that little wet island offers to the
earnest student.

Can't blame Brazil for wanting an elastic
currency. Most anything would be better than
the disappearing kind with which we are
struggling to get along.

"Tax, you're it" as an international pastime
with the United States always "it" is going to
be a calamity almost. Already the
nations of Europe are finding us hard to
touch.

Making the ocean dry is going to be one of
the wettest jobs Mr. Volstead has yet tackled.

In the energy displayed by Muscye Shoals
in the House, it seems to have plenty of its
first name left.

As an instance of the tail wagging the dog,
it might be noted that Lynchburg seems to
have a motive power that Richmond lacks.

Don't believe that D'Annunzio is making his
way to Ireland. Had he really wanted to fight
he would have remained at home.

If it comes down to a choice between send-
ing aridity across the seas in American liners,
and the liners themselves, we presume the
liners will have to be sacrificed. What matters
it if we lose our transatlantic traffic so long
as we are dry?

Harding's cabinet selections may be a per-
sonal matter to him, as those of George
opines, but it is also a very personal matter
to the Senator to see that they are persona
grata to Penrose.

If the 1921 slogan, "Business as Usual," re-
fers to what happened in 1920, we move to
become by making it "unusual."

THE TIMES-DISPATCH

SUNDAY SERMON

BY REV. W. RUSSELL BOWIE, D. D.,
Rector of St. Paul's Church.

"As unknown, and yet well known; as dying,
and yet alive; as hidden, and yet manifest."
(II. Corinthians vi. 9.)

There are times for all of us when we feel a
sense of the helplessness of the individual as
against a crowd. We live in an age of tre-
mendous organization. The single life may
seem to be only a cog in a vast machine, part
of a movement which it can only in the faintest
measure shape and direct. Against the
strong pressure of impersonal influences,
the single life may find itself swept aside and
submerged, like a swimmer struggling vainly
against the current of the river. Here and
there, of course, a few lives of extraordinary
endowment and peculiar power may breast the
flood, they may even disentangle themselves
from it, cut new channels for it, and change
the whole course of the stream against which
they struggled; but this we think is a
possibility only for very rare persons. For
the life without particular endowment, without
the added strength which wealth or prestige or
worldly prominence can give, there seems at
least, in our moments of pessimism—little
chance of battle against the tide.

We rest our thought, first of all, upon the
consideration that lies back of this text. St.
Paul, writing of that group of Christians who
constituted the life of that early church, pro-
claimed that they were "unknown, and yet
well known; as dying, and yet alive." We
have grown so accustomed to taking it as
a matter of course that the men who first
followed Jesus, that we lose the fresh
sense of wonder in this fact, which by all
reasonable probabilities was at first as far
from being a matter of course as any possible
thing could be. For who were these men
whose names have become deathless? They
were the common men from an empire and
from a time when no one dreamed of a
small chance. There seems no democracy in
that Roman world such as we know today. Power
was ordinarily an inherited thing. Power
was the possession of a small and jealous
caste. Great military conquerors had subdued
the earth and made it subject to their will.

What is it that thus makes it possible for
the obscure life to emerge into greatness? It
is the peculiar gifts of those
lives themselves. It is because they become
so much a part of the world that the uni-
verse, and because of that universe they be-
come part of the character of the influence
which they express.

Here is the secret of that power which comes
to lives that in themselves seem to have no
conspicuous power. It is not what they
do, but what they are. It is not what they
allow to express itself, but what they have al-
lowed to express itself. It is not what they
do, but what they are. It is not what they
allow to express itself, but what they have al-
lowed to express itself.

What we need to do, therefore, is to turn our
eyes from our own limitations and fix
it upon the sufficiency of those forces which are
at God. Here, for example, is the woman, dis-
satisfied with many of the social practices, dis-
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Voice of the People on Topics of the Day

BY REV. W. RUSSELL BOWIE, D. D.,
Rector of St. Paul's Church.

About Proposed Changes in the
Schedules of the C. & O.
Railroad.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir—As a member of the committee
which submitted the proposed
changes in the schedule requested of
the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway
Company, I feel that fairness com-
pels a correction of several mis-
takes contained in your editorial
under the caption, "Richmond Asks
Only Fairness." appearing in this
morning's issue.

You refer to a change made some
years ago when passenger
trains on the Chesapeake and Ohio
main line were advanced from 11 P.
M. to 9:30 P. M. as having been made
at the insistence of the Lynchburg
Chamber of Commerce. Lynchburg
is not concerned with the departure of
trains from Richmond over the main
line of the Chesapeake and Ohio, and
it is doubtful if any member of the
Chamber of Commerce of that city
could, without reference to a folder,
tell the time of departure of any
train from this city over the main
line. The truth is, no trains over
the main line leave Lynchburg
nearer than Charlottesville, sixty
miles distant. Trains operated over
the line in no way affect the time
shoppers may spend in Lynchburg.
The Chesapeake and Ohio did not
make this change at the request of
or for the benefit of Lynchburg, to
the detriment of Richmond.

Your statement to the effect that
the Chamber of Commerce of Lynchburg
made without encountering a protest
from our Chamber of Commerce
is entirely untrue. The Chamber of
Commerce of Lynchburg has never
made a statement of this kind.
The business interests of Rich-
mond—in reality, the Chamber of
Commerce—have always been con-
cerned with the maintenance of
no one expects commercial bodies
to protest against a change being
made until it becomes apparent that
a change is objectionable.

The real issue behind the movement to
secure more frequent scheduled
trains from the several railroads entering
the city is the value of the service
which they provide. They are, however, anxious
to prevent an impression being done or
a false impression created.

C. A. SPENCE, JR.,
Richmond, Va., January 1, 1921.

Values England's Friendship.
To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir—If I might, I would like to
ask Mr. Eamon de Valera, if in his
judgment Ireland were isolated as
Australia is, would there be any Irish
man or woman who would be clamoring for
independence? And if the Australian
Premier is right, when he says that
to give Ireland her independence

is to give her a "general breakdown,"
would there be any Irishman who
would be clamoring for independence?

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cal subjects, are answered free. As
all inquiries are answered directly
by personal letter, a self-addressed
stamped envelope is required. Ad-
dress: The Times-Dispatch Infor-
mation Bureau, Richmond, Va.

Don't Silver Bullies.
W. D. Vinton, of the
Twenty-one known
specimens of the 1864 dollar in existence,
has been a subject of these coins
among numismatists generally. It has
been claimed by some that the 1864
dollar is a myth, originated by un-
scrupulous coin dealers and fostered
by the greed of collectors. This
opinion was set forth in a paper read
by Geoffrey Charlton Adams before
the Chicago Numismatic Society a
few years ago. Yet those who have
though the dies were in the possession
of the government, no strikes
were made, and that the coins
bearing such date which are now in ex-
istence had undoubtedly been struck
before the war.

Answer—Ventilation implies the admission
of a current of air from outdoors, and how
that can be accomplished without a draft is
one of those questions that can't be answered.
Admitted—is a good live activator?
For several years I have been subject to slight
dizzy spells with some soreness below my
ribs.

Answer—Colonel has no effect on the liver.
Olive Oil—is olive oil, taken freely, harm-
ful? (A. S.)
Lower—olive oil is a food. If it does not
disturb your digestion or prove too laxative it
can do no harm.

Hornet Stung Chained Hives—My little boy,
aged 12, was stung behind the left ear, on the
temple and left hand by hornets. I applied
vinegar and common baking soda. In about
half an hour he complained of difficulty in
speaking and tightness in his chest, and im-
mediately afterward an eruption came out all
over his body resembling the welts of flea
bites, with great itching. The rash was out
all day. Next morning he was all right and
the rash had gone. Please tell me whether
the rash was due to the sting or whether
my treatment was responsible in any way.

(Mrs. M. L. W.)
Bunion—I am afraid a bunion is forming
on my foot. Will you kindly give me a rem-
edy? Please do not mix my name in your
column. (Miss P. M. L.)

Answer—The prevention I know is
proper shoes. The shoes must have straight
or inward flaring inside lines, broad soles
and not less than two inches wide. Shoes
modeled after the Munson last used by the
army—and such shoes can be and are fre-
quently worn by the women who are par-
ticularly enough about their appearance.

Ancient Prophecy Disturbs Turks
[By Cross-Atlantic Service.]
ATHENS, Jan. 1.—Greece and Turkey are
aroused with superstitious awe, awaiting the
fulfillment of an old prophecy, which will
make Constantinople Greek. The prophecy
runs:
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